



PROPOSAL EVALUATION

IRWM Grant Program – Local Groundwater Assistance, FY 2012-2013

Applicant	City of Modesto	County	Stanislaus
Project Title	Modesto Groundwater Basin Characterization and Recharge Study	Grant Request	\$ 249,990.00
		Total Project Cost	\$ 249,990.00

Project Description: The Proposal identifies areas in the Modesto Groundwater Subbasin where direct or indirect groundwater augmentation may occur to maintain basin groundwater levels and to provide for banking of seasonally-available surplus treated surface water in the subsurface for future use, through the creation of an Integrated Groundwater Management and Augmentation Plan.

Evaluation Summary:

Scoring Criterion	Score
GWMP or Program	5
Technical Adequacy of Work to be Performed	5
Work Plan	10
Budget	4
Schedule	5
QA/QC	4
Past Performance	5
Geographic Balance	0
Total Score	38

- **GWMP or Program:** The City of Modesto is a member of the Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers Groundwater Basin Association (STRGBA) and overlies the Modesto Subbasin of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin. A Groundwater Management Plan, entitled Integrated Regional Groundwater Management Plan for the Modesto Subbasin, was prepared by the STRGBA in 2005, and was adopted by the City the same year. The application contains the following documentation: City of Modesto Resolution 2005-340 adopting the Integrated Regional Groundwater Management Plan for the Modesto Subbasin, City of Modesto Resolution 2008-206 adopting the Turlock Groundwater Basin Groundwater Management Plan, and the Integrated Regional Groundwater Management Plan for the Modesto Subbasin.
- **Technical Adequacy of Work to be Performed:** This criterion is fully addressed with thorough and well-presented documentation and logical rationale. The application includes a complete and detailed description of the proposed project, including goals and objectives, needed facilities, area affected, and collaboration with other local public agencies. The applicant sufficiently demonstrates project need and merit, the acquisition of new knowledge and improvement of groundwater management, and how ongoing funding by the City will occur outside the current grant request. Figures 1 through 5 show the area covered and groundwater basin schematics. Project need was adequately described on pages 8 and 9. Collaboration with other local public agencies is also presented in the application on the last paragraph. The level of technical detail was sufficient to determine that the proposed project is technically feasible.
- **Work Plan:** The criterion is fully addressed with thorough and well-presented documentation. The tasks and subtasks in the Work Plan are sufficiently detailed to serve as the scope of work for the agreement. Project deliverables are given within the subtasks. The Work Plan is consistent with and supports the Budget and Schedule. The tasks fulfill the objectives of the project. Progress and performance evaluation is presented under Subtask 1.4. The proposed tasks sufficiently relate to improving groundwater management and support the related GWMP. The application includes a sound proposal for evaluating progress and performance of the project, and sufficiently addresses any needs for access to private property, compliance with CEQA, and other regulatory requirements, where applicable. The Work Plan includes a description of how interested parties, stakeholders, and the general public can obtain information and results of the proposed project.



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- **Budget:** The criterion is fully addressed but is not thoroughly documented. The Task numbers were numbered consistently with the Schedule and the Work Plan. The proposed Budget includes sufficient details to support a cost-effective means to meet project objectives. A narrative is included that summarizes how the Budget estimate was developed, yet does not include details on Budget development including supporting information for hourly rates or hours spent on tasks. In general, grant share amounts are included for each task and are consistent with and supported by the Work Plan and Schedule. However, no explanation or supporting information for ODCs (other direct costs?) is included. Footnotes were missing.
- **Schedule:** The criterion is fully addressed with thorough and well-presented documentation. The Schedule categories and subcategories are consistent with the Work Plan and Budget. The description and rationale for the Schedule is presented and seems reasonable. The start and end dates are within the required two-year timeframe. The Schedule includes realistic timelines for the work to be performed and is aligned with the Work Plan tasks and Budget. The Applicant provides appropriate and sufficient detail for each task timeline. The Applicant describes that they expect to proceed with the project when grant funding becomes available, and identifies known obstacles or expectations for delays.
- **QA/QC:** The criterion is addressed but is not thoroughly documented. Procedural assurances and professional qualifications are described in a generalized and broad sense, for example, "Licensed personnel (professional engineers and geologists registered with the state of California) will be used where appropriate." QA/QC protocols listed in this section are not specific to the identified tasks and subtasks described in the Work Plan, although the QA/QC plan is consistent and incorporated into the project Work Plan.
- **Past Performance:** The criterion is fully addressed with thorough and well-presented documentation. The applicant provides a summary of their performance over the past five years for work comparable to that in their Work Plan. The Applicant provides a summary of work successfully completed comparable to the proposal and included backup information, such as summaries and reports documenting that the work was completed. The applicant demonstrates the capability of performing high quality work, managing funds, and meeting deadlines for similar types of projects.